



S/N 10/613,757

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	ZIMMEL ET AL.	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	10/613,757	Group Art Unit:	UNKNOWN
Filed:	JULY 2, 2003	Docket No.:	2316.1789US01
Title:	FIBEROPTIC FURCATION DEVICE WITH CRIMP		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 1, 2003.

By: Patricia Cygan
Name: Patricia Cygan

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

The photographs of Exhibit A concern a product by ADC Telecommunications, Inc., the assignee of the present application. The product of Exhibit A is a coaxial cable splitter device for splitting a coaxial signal from one input end to two output ends. The device of Exhibit A is to be considered prior art as of Applicants' filing date, July 2, 2003. If the Examiner has further questions about the device of Exhibit A, or if the Examiner would like to view a sample, the Examiner should contact the undersigned.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to

establish that the references are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: Dec. 1, 2003



Steven C. Bruess
Reg. No. 34,130
SCB:PSTkaw/pmc

FORM 1449*			Docket Number: 2316.1789US01	Application Number: 10/613,757
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)			Applicant: ZIMMEL ET AL.	
			Filing Date: 07/02/2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

O I P E
DEC 05 2003
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,626,067	12/02/1986	Watson			
	5,231,688	07/27/1993	Zimmer			
	5,838,861	11/17/1998	Bunde			
	5,970,195	10/19/1999	Brown			
	6,278,831 B1	08/21/2001	Henderson et al.			
	6,389,214 B1	05/14/2002	Smith et al.			
	6,438,299 B1	08/20/2002	Brown et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
	Exhibit A	Photographs of a coaxial cable splitter device admitted as prior art as of July 2, 2003 (6 pages).				

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	